

JOINT TASK FORCE - FULL ACCOUNTING

BIOGRAPHIC/SITE REPORT AS OF 8 NOVEMBER 1993

BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

REFNO: 1207-1-01 (ACCNO 5723) Status: (K) REMAINS RECOVERED
Name: FORD, RANDOLPH WRIGHT Date Status assigned: 4 Nov 1985

| | | | | | |
|-------------|----------|----------|-------------------|------------|-------|
| Nationality | AMERICAN | Race | CAUCASIAN | Blood Chit | DATA |
| Service | NAVY | Sex | MALE | Blood type | A + |
| Grade | 04 | Hair | BROWN | Complexion | RUDDY |
| SSAN | | Eyes | HAZEL | Weapon | # |
| Serial No | DATA | Height | 70 in / 1.78 mtrs | Weapon No | # |
| Birth date | | Weight | 168 lb / 76.1 kg | Duty pos | PILOT |
| Home State | FLORIDA | Religion | PROTESTANT | PW Camp | \$ |

SITE INFORMATION

INCIDENT LOCATION (0) LAST KNOWN LOCATION (1)

| | | |
|-------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Site Type: | CRASH SITE | RESOLVED SITE |
| UTM: | 48QXF162198 | 48QWF710640 |
| Lat/Long: | 181558N / 1060558E | 184003N / 1054024E |
| Country: | NORTH VIETNAM | |
| Military Region: | 4 | |
| Mission Province: | HA TINH | NGHE AN |
| (formerly): | | |
| Mission District: | CAM XUYEN | VINH CITY |
| Mission Date: | 11 Jun 1968 | |
| Mission Category: | 3 | |
| Local Analysis: | None. | Populated area. |

JTF-FA ACTIVITY SUMMARY

Remains Repatriated: YES
Folders Passed: Apr 85, Sep 82
Vessey Case: NO
Case type: DISCREPANCY
Survivability: (1) Out of the aircraft at the time of the crash

VEHICLE DATA

| | |
|---------------------------|-------------------|
| Vehicle Type: A7A | Serial: 153265 |
| Crash Type: Enemy action | Engine Type: TF30 |
| Call Sign: SIDEWINDER-404 | 1 Serial: |
| Year: \$ | 2 Serial: |

SPECIAL CHARACTER KEY

= Item has been researched but data cannot be obtained.
\$ = Item is not applicable to this case.
@ or Blank = Data for item is unknown or not available.

CASE: 1207

CIRCUMSTANCES OF LOSS

23 March 1976

ON 11 JUNE 1968 LCDR RANDOLPH W. FORD WAS THE PILOT OF AN A7A AIRCRAFT, (BUNO #153265, CALL SIGN SIDEWINDER 404), LAUNCHED FROM THE AIRCRAFT CARRIER USS AMERICA ON A NIGHT ROAD RECONNAISSANCE MISSION OVER NORTH VIETNAM. LCDR FORD MADE A FLARE DROP OVER A TARGET, AND SHORTLY THEREAFTER HIS WINGMAN SAW AN ORANGE FIREBALL AND AN EXPLOSION. THE WINGMAN WAS ABLE TO CONTACT LCDR FORD ON THE GUARD RADIO FREQUENCY AND WAS TOLD BY LCDR FORD THAT HE HAD A BROKEN ARM AND THAT THE ENEMY WAS NEARBY.

SEARCH AND RESCUE (SAR) EFFORTS WERE BEGUN IMMEDIATELY AND CONTINUED FOR ABOUT TEN HOURS IN THE GENERAL VICINITY OF GRID COORDINATES XF 162 198. TWENTY-NINE AIRCRAFT WERE INVOLVED IN THE SAR EFFORTS, AND VOICE AND BEEPER SIGNALS WERE HEARD IN THE EARLY HOURS OF THE ATTEMPTED RESCUE, HOWEVER, AS TIME PASSED, IT APPEARED THAT THE ENEMY HAD GAINED POSSESSION OF THE BEEPER AND WAS USING IT TO LURE SAR FORCES. ALL SAR EFFORTS, LESS ELECTRONIC SEARCH, WERE DISCONTINUED FOR LCDR FORD WHEN A SAR HELICOPTER RECEIVED HOSTILE FIRE FROM THE VICINITY OF THE BEEPER SIGNAL, AND ONE CREWMAN WAS WOUNDED. (REF 1 & 2)

ON 13 JUNE A HANOI RADIO BROADCAST THAT "AT 0200 HOURS ON 11 JUNE, U.S. WARPLANES ATTACKED A POPULATED AREA IN HA TINH PROVINCE. ONE OF THEM WAS KNOCKED DOWN ON THE SPOT, AND THE AIR PIRATE CAPTURED BY THE MILITIA IN CAM XUYEN DISTRICT." (REF 1)

MAJ INGUALSON (REF 1194, RES-T), DURING HIS DEBRIEFING AFTER OPERATION HOMECOMING, PROVIDED FIRSTHAND INFORMATION ON THE POSSIBLE DEATH OF LCDR FORD. INGUALSON STATED THAT HE PERSONALLY TALKED TO LCDR FORD ON 15 JUN 1968, WHO HAD A BROKEN ARM AND POSSIBLE INTERNAL INJURIES. AFTER LCDR FORD COMPLAINED TO NVN GUARDS, HE WAS GIVEN A LARGE PILL, WHICH CAUSED HIM TO BE DELIRIOUS AND TO EVENTUALLY PASS OUT. LATER NVN GUARDS CAME IN, PLACED A BLANKET OVER HIM, AND MOVED HIM OUT OF THE CELL. MAJ INGUALSON BELIEVED THAT LCDR FORD WAS ALREADY DEAD AT THIS TIME. (REF 3)

4 November 1985

DURING THE EXISTENCE OF JCRC, THE LIMITED INFORMATION IN THIS CASE PRECLUDED ANY EFFORTS TOWARD RESOLUTION. THIS INDIVIDUAL'S NAME AND IDENTIFYING DATA WERE TURNED OVER TO THE FOUR-PARTY JOINT MILITARY TEAM WITH A REQUEST FOR ANY INFORMATION AVAILABLE. NO RESPONSE WAS FORTHCOMING. LCDR FORD'S REMAINS WERE RETURNED TO THE U.S. BY THE SRV ON 14 AUGUST 1985. STATUS CHANGE WAS APPROVED BY THE ASGRO BOARD OF REVIEW ON 4 NOVEMBER 1985.

CASE: 1207

=== REFERENCES ===

23 March 1976

REFERENCES USED: <1> EXTRACT , ONI-53-1A, PAGE B-124, 1 SEP 71. <2> RPT , ATKRON 86, USS AMERICA, 11 JUN 68. <3> , MSG, 13 AF, CLARK AB, PHIL, DEBRIEF OF LT COL ROGER D. INGRALSON, 160305Z MAR 73. <4> CDR JTFFA/J2 010702Z NOV 93.

=== NEGOTIATION ACTIONS ===

20 April 1985

A NEGOTIATION FOLDER ON RANDOLPH W. FORD WAS FORWARDED TO THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE ON 26 OCTOBER 1977 FOR EVENTUAL DELIVERY TO THE SRV DELEGATION IN PARIS. ANOTHER FOLDER WAS PASSED TO THE SRV, VIETNAMESE OFFICE FOR SEEKING MISSING PERSONS DURING THE SEP 82 NATIONAL LEAGUE OF FAMILIES VISIT TO HANOI, AND DURING THE 17-20 APR 85 JCRC TECHNICAL MEETING IN HANOI.

=== ASSOCIATED INDIVIDUALS ===

5 August 1976

LAST KNOWN LOCATION OF WF710640 ENTERED BASED ON DEBRIEF OF MAJ R.D. INGVALLSON.

=== ARCHIVAL RESEARCH INFORMATION ===

5 November 1993

ON 17 DEC 92, THE SRV PROVIDED A DOCUMENT TITLED, "REGISTER OF U.S. LOSSES IN NGHE AN PROVINCE." LINE ENTRY #2 CORRELATES TO REFNO 1207-1-01 BASED ON PILOT'S NAME, DATE OF BIRTH, RANK, SERIAL NUMBER AND AIRCRAFT TYPE. (REF 4)

JOINT TASK FORCE - FULL ACCOUNTING

BIOGRAPHIC/SITE REPORT AS OF 25 OCTOBER 1993

===== BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION =====

| | | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------|
| REFNO: 1208-0-01 (ACCNO 5886) | Status: (N) DEAD BODY NOT RECOVERED | |
| Name: CARTER, JAMES DEVRIN | Date Status assigned: 3 Jul 1968 | |
| Nationality AMERICAN | Race CAUCASIAN | Blood Chit \$ |
| Service ARMY | Sex MALE | Blood type O # |
| Grade W1 | Hair BROWN | Complexion # |
| SSAN DATA | Eyes BLUE | Weapon # |
| Serial No 3157730 | Height 66 in / 1.68 mtrs | Weapon No # |
| Birth date 13 Mar 1947 | Weight 140 lb / 63.4 kg | Duty pos ACFT CDR |
| Home State MICHIGAN | Religion CATHOLIC | PW Camp \$ |

===== SITE INFORMATION =====

INCIDENT LOCATION (0)

Site Type: CRASH SITE
UTM: 49PBS718802
Lat/Long: 151120N / 1085232E
Country: SOUTH VIETNAM
Military Region: 1
Mission Province: QUANG NGAI
(formerly):
Mission District: SON TINH
Mission Date: 13 Jun 1968
Mission Category: 1
Local Analysis: Remote area.

===== JTF-FA ACTIVITY SUMMARY =====

Folders Passed: Apr 93, Aug 86
Investigations: Apr 93
Surveys: Apr 93
Excavations: Apr 93, Aug 93
Vessey Case: NO
Case type: CRASH SITE
Survivability: (5) In the aircraft at the time of the crash

===== VEHICLE DATA =====

| | |
|-------------------------------|------------------|
| Vehicle Type: UH1D | Serial: 1016 |
| Crash Type: Aircraft accident | Engine Type: T53 |
| Call Sign: @ | 1 Serial: # |
| Year: 66 | 2 Serial: \$ |

===== SPECIAL CHARACTER KEY =====

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